

Trauma PI Goal: Reducing the Number of Trauma Patients that Die in Non-Trauma Centers

Data source: HDD 2011, ED visits and inpatient discharges. Trauma cases were identified based on state inclusion criteria.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention developed an evidence-based tool to describe which patients should be preferentially triaged to a trauma center. This tool was adopted by the Arizona State Trauma Advisory Board. It recognizes that individuals who are over the age of 55, or have suspected head injury or are taking anti-coagulant medications, are at higher risk from their injuries. EMS or non-trauma centers must have a high index of suspicion for those patients and should strongly consider transporting them to a trauma center.

Arizona Baseline Reducing the Number of Trauma Patients Dying in a Non-Trauma Center: 21.15% of Hospital Trauma Deaths

How to read this tool:

Table 1: For trauma patients that died of their injuries in a hospital, this table describes the number and percent that died in a level I or IV trauma center or in a non-trauma hospital.

Table 2: Provides the total number of trauma deaths in hospitals and breaks them down by age.

Table 3: Describes the type of injury for the trauma deaths by volume and percent.

Table 1						
Trauma deaths by hospital type	Hospital Inpatient		Hospital Emergency Department		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Non-designated Hospitals	129	21.97%	54	19.42%	183	21.15%
Level I Trauma Centers	445	75.80%	179	64.38%	624	72.13%
Level IV Trauma Centers	13	2.21%	45	16.18%	58	6.70%
Total	587	100.00%	278	100.00%	865	100.00%
Table 2						
Injury type for non-trauma center deaths			N		%	
Type 1 TBI			59		32.24%	
Hip			56		30.60%	
Chest			18		9.83%	
Unspecified			10		5.46%	
Upper Leg & Thigh			8		4.37%	
Lower Leg & Ankle			6		3.27%	
Other Head			5		2.73%	
System Wide & Late Effects			5		2.73%	
Abdomen			4		2.18%	
Other			13		< 2.00% each	

Table 3		
Age of non-trauma center deaths		
<5	3	1.63%
9-14	1	0.54%
15-17	1	0.54%
18-24	3	1.63%
25-44	12	6.55%
45-64	31	16.93%
65+	132	72.13%
Total Died	183	100.00%